



Dear California Air Resources Board,

As the Founder and President of Wildlife Works Inc. a California based forest conservation company, I would like to submit the following comments in relation to the October 28, 2015 California Air Resources Board meeting regarding the possibility of introducing tropical forest carbon offset credits to the California CO2 cap and trade market.

1. Wildlife Works strongly supports the State of California's staying the course in regards to it's long-standing policy directives and commitments towards inclusion of REDD+ offsets in the California offset market, and urges the ARB and it's counterpart state entities to proceed vigorously with the policy process required to make REDD+ offsets an available compliance option to obligated entities from the start of the Third Compliance period (2018-2020).
2. Wildlife Works would also like to stress the importance of the globe-spanning co-benefits to communities and to biodiversity generated by each additional REDD+ offset. The allocation of REDD+ offsets within the California market is not only cost-efficient, it comes with additional, positive international development benefits that foster international goodwill towards California.
3. California's role as a global climate action leader and California's long-announced intent to pursue REDD+ offsets have helped foster a positive REDD+ environment. Hence, many jurisdictions (such as Acre in Brazil, Mai Ndombe in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and others) and private sector entities (such as the Verified Carbon Standard, TerraGlobal Capital, Scientific Certification Systems and Wildlife Works) have taken this cue and have carried out sustained efforts and invested resources in developing a supply of REDD+ offsets of a very high standard. Today, many of these advanced efforts stand at a crossroads. No significant compliance offset market has yet become assured for these REDD+ offsets. There is a real risk of backsliding - much could be lost throughout the world's tropical forests if these flagship REDD+ efforts flounder - they need new offset markets if we are to scale REDD+ to a level needed to address tropical deforestation on a global climate scale. With its size and years of prior work preparing for REDD+, no other offset market is better placed than California's to lead the way and propel others to follow suit, enhancing California's stature globally. Strong signals now by California will help ensure that today's significant, high-standard, carefully nurtured supply of REDD+ offsets continues to exist to meet California demand for the Third Compliance period. Conversely, additional delays risk pushing this very supply under, and would see California abdicating the leadership role it has been playing in the global tropical forests and REDD+ agendas.

4. Wildlife Works also urges the ARB to support Jurisdictional Nested REDD+ programs, not just in Acre and Chiapas, but elsewhere that critical tropical forest jurisdictions are designing REDD+ programs with private sector REDD+ projects nested within the programs.

5. California is home to some of the most innovative private sector companies operating in the REDD+ sector internationally, including Terraglobal Capital, Scientific Certification Systems and ourselves Wildlife Works who operate two large REDD+ projects in Africa, and ARB's support for REDD+ will create more jobs in California, and further reinforce California's leadership in this sector.

Thank you for your consideration

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Korchinsky', written over a horizontal line.

Mike Korchinsky  
President  
Wildlife Works